

Amendments to the Claims:

1-46. (Canceled).

47. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 84, wherein the MHC class II molecules have the subtype DR B1 301 or DR B1 0401.

48. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 84, wherein the MHC class II molecules are recombinant MHC class II molecules.

49. (Currently amended) The complex of claim 84, wherein the peptide is bound to a soluble ~~peptide binding derivative of said~~ MHC class II DR3 or DR4 ~~molecules~~ molecule selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

50. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 84, wherein the complex carries a marker group.

51-54. (Canceled).

55. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 84, wherein the peptide carries a marker group.

56. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a complex as claimed in claim 84, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

57. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 56, further comprising an accessory stimulating component, wherein the accessory stimulating component is a cytokine, surface antigen B7, or both.

58. (Canceled herein).

59-83. (Canceled).

84. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

85. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

86. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein a reactive backbone and/or amino acid side group of said peptide has been derivatized by a chemical reaction,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

87. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein a reactive backbone and/or amino acid side group of said peptide has been derivatized by a chemical reaction,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

88. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein at least one amino acid of said peptide is replaced with a homolog of said amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-hydroxyproline, 5-hydroxylysine, 3-methyl histidine, homoserine, ornithine, β -alanine and 4-aminobutyric acid,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

89. (Currently amended) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein at least one amino acid of said peptide is replaced with a homolog of said amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-hydroxyproline, 5-hydroxylysine, 3-methyl histidine, homoserine, ornithine, β -alanine and 4-aminobutyric acid,

which is bound to an allele ~~or a peptide-binding derivative~~ of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, ~~and~~ DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

90. (Currently amended) The complex of claim 86, wherein the peptide is bound to a soluble ~~peptide binding derivative of said~~ MHC class II DR3 or DR4 ~~molecules~~ molecule selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

91. (Currently amended) The complex of claim 88, wherein the peptide is bound to a soluble ~~peptide binding derivative of said~~ MHC class II DR3 or DR4 ~~molecules~~ molecule selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402, DR B1 0404 and peptide-binding fragments thereof.

92. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 86, wherein the peptide carries a marker group.

93. (Previously presented) The complex of claim 88, wherein the peptide carries a marker group.